Phone: (803) 737-0800

abateman@regstaff.sc.gov

## Andrew M. Bateman Deputy Chief Counsel for ORS

December 21, 2018

## **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Stephen and Beverly Noller and Michael and Nancy Halwig, Complainants/Petitioners

v. Daufuskie Island Utility Company, Incorporated, Defendant/Respondent

Docket No. 2018-364-WS

Dear Ms. Boyd:

While the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") understands that there are complex issues that must be resolved in this case, it also believes that it is in the best interest of ratepayers for adequate utility service to be provided in a safe and reasonable manner. ORS has communicated extensively with counsel for both Daufuskie Island Utility Company ("DIUC") and the Complainants and believes that DIUC has the capability to safely restore service to the Complainants immediately. As a result, ORS would respectfully request, absent a showing from DIUC indicating why it cannot safely restore service, expedited review from the Public Service Commission of South Carolina and a requirement that DIUC immediately restore service to the Complainants with the understanding that restoration of service does not waive any position that any party may take in this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew M. Rateman

cc: Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via E-mail) All Parties of Record (via E-mail)